

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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31

Action

Control: 19382

Rec'd: September 30, 1957

10:09 a.m.

NEA  
Info

FROM: Tehran

TO: Secretary of State

RMR

NO: 637 September 30, noon.

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PRIORITY

SENT DEPARTMENT 637, REPEATED INFORMATION DAMASCUS 5.

References: Damascus 14 and 15, DEPCIRTEL 294.

King Saud's recent visit to Damascus has been question considerable speculation in Tehran. Until today public comment has been factual. Iran press now carries September 29 AP report from Damascus describing conversation at airport between American Charge and King Saud during which King Saud asked Strong to inform his Government that there is no trace of Communism in Syria.

Embassy notes Damascus reports many correspondents in Damascus appear giving ear to Syrian line. Saud's public gesture of friendship for US is being distorted as indicated above. Embassy accordingly suggests that if Department authorizes Strong to inform chiefs of Turkish, Pakistan, Iraqi and Iranian missions of first two parts of Saud's message that Strong also be authorized to state that King Saud did not say there was no trace of Communism in Syria as had been indicated in some subsequent press reports. Embassy also suggests that it be authorized to inform Iranian Foreign Office in similar vein.

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
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